



Southwest *Church of the Nazarene*

CHURCH NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 9, 2020 – VOLUME 38

“BREAKING NEWS”

We hear this phrase often from our news stations. They are announcing the latest political update, a crisis that has recently occurred, or a new bill has passed the Senate. Rarely is it that it is “good” breaking news. Most of the time it is like our daily dose of discouragement.

I grew up with a 19-inch television in our living room, without a remote. Times were hard... so it seemed, as a child. Dad would have one of us kids go up and turn the channel, and sometimes we would have to move the rabbit ears to get a clearer picture. Occasionally, Dad would even have to get up on the roof and turn the antenna to adjust the signal. Oh, the good ole days! The evening news was broadcast with steadfast anchors like Walter Cronkite, Tom Brokaw, and Dan Rather. Faithfully, they shared the latest happenings and walked America through all the details during dinner. It’s funny – now thinking back, I do not remember anything they said. It makes me wonder today if we are forgetting some of “the best news” as well?

Chuck Swindoll gives an example for this when he writes, “Take the year 1809. The international scene was tumultuous. Napoleon was sweeping through Austria; blood was flowing freely. Nobody then cared about babies. But the world was overlooking some terribly significant births.”

He mentions the birth of William Gladstone, destined to become one of England's finest statesman. Then, there was Alfred Tennyson. He was born to an obscure

minister and his wife, yet he became the child who would one day greatly affect the literary world. Other notables in 1809 included Oliver Wendell Holmes and also Edgar Allan Poe – who began his challenging, successful, yet tragic life. Who could forget the birth of our 16th president from Hardin County, Kentucky, Abraham Lincoln? Yet, none of these births hit the headlines of the papers.

Swindoll finishes his thought, “If there had been news broadcasts at that time, I’m certain these words would have been heard: ‘The destiny of the world is being shaped on an Austrian battlefield today.’ But history was actually being shaped in the cradles of England and America. Similarly, everyone thought taxation was the big news – when Jesus was born. But a young Jewish woman cradled the biggest news of all: the birth of the Savior.” (Adapted from Charles Swindoll)

This year do not miss the best news because we are only listening to the bad news or the headlines of the day. This season is not about a virus, the economy, or the presidency. The greatest news was told by the Angel of the Lord to a few shepherds watching their flocks at night.

Luke 2:10-11

Then the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.” NKJV

This was big news; this is still good news! May He bring you “tidings of great joy” in this unprecedented Christmas season of 2020! May He remind us all, “Do not be afraid” for He is still Christ the Lord.

Pastor Scott and Cindy

Upcoming Events & Services

Wednesday, December 9th – 6:30pm Prayer Meeting

Saturday, December 12th – 4-9pm R!OT Youth
Christmas Party and
Dinner

Sunday, December 13th – 10:40am Worship Service
with Children's
Christmas Singing
– 3-5pm Teen Quizzing
– 5-7pm R!OT Youth

Wednesday, December 16th – 6:30pm Prayer
Meeting

Sunday, December 20th – 10:40am Special
Christmas & Family
Worship Service Treats
(Children will be in
service.)
– 3-5pm Teen Quizzing
– 5-7pm R!OT Youth

Wednesday, December 23rd – No Evening Prayer
Meeting

Thursday, December 24th – 6:30pm Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service

Sunday, December 27th – 10:40am Worship Service
& Children's Church
(Jesus' Birthday party for
children)
– No Teen Quizzing
– No R!OT Youth Group

Wednesday, December 30th – No Evening Prayer
Meeting

Friday, January 1st – 7pm R!OT Youth Lock-In
(will stay from Friday at 7pm
to Saturday at 7am)

Praises:

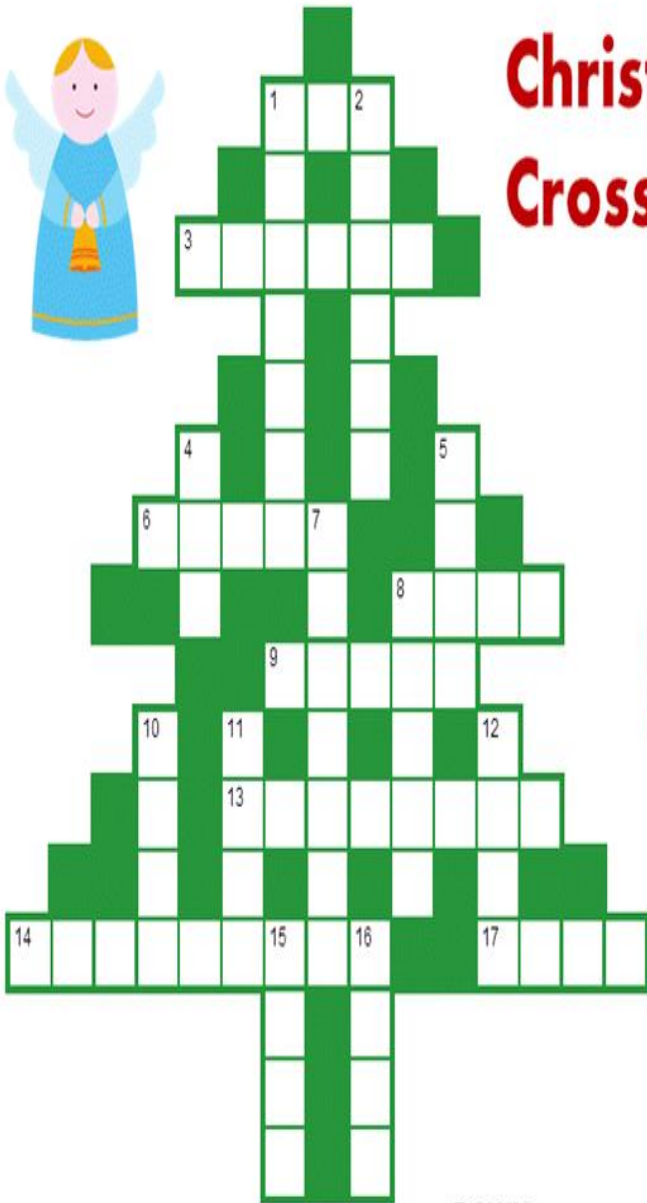
- ❖ Praise the Lord for Jane Brown and Dan Duke both doing much better. God is helping them improve each day recovering from COVID!
- ❖ Praise the Lord for a beautiful Christmas service Sunday! The worship time was angelic and meaningful. God truly was with us and blessed us with His presence. We learned through Joseph and Mary's life, "We can trust Him!"
- ❖ Praise the Lord for another new family joining us! We are thankful for those God continues to bring to our church family. Let's support them with our love and prayers!
- ❖ Praise the Lord for a wonderful offering Sunday! Thank you everyone for being faithful to honor the Lord with your giving. May He continue to bless His people so we can continue furthering His kingdom!
- ❖ Praise the Lord for those helping with the Giving Tree Offerings! There are many needs, and we want to help as many as we can. Thank you for your gifts!!

Prayers:

- ❖ Prayer Needs can be found in your emailed or mailed copies.



Christmas Crossword



2 Corinthians 9:15

(NKJV)

*Thanks be to God for
His indescribable gift!*

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



(See Luke 2:1-16)

12-26-2011

HERE'S A GIFT RECEIPT FOR THE MYRRH
IN CASE YOU HAD WANTED OTHER PERFUME

ACROSS

1. Pumpkin or mincemeat
3. Santa's ride
6. Celebration
8. Newborn
9. Northpole crew
13. Word of praise
14. Words on a Christmas card
17. It's opened on Christmas

DOWN

1. Alternative word to 17 across
2. Christmas drink
4. Christmas dinner centerpiece
5. Dec. holiday
7. Christmas warmer
8. "Jingle ____"
10. Christmas tree
11. O. Henry's "The Gift of the ____"
12. What carolers do
15. French Christmas.
16. Snow glider



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Children's
Christmas Singing
Sunday, December 13th



Christmas Eve
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
6:30pm

Christmas Treats
Sunday, December 20th

We will be collecting money for the 2020 Christmas Giving Tree through Sunday, Dec. 13th. All financial gifts go to help families connected to our church with a little extra for Christmas this year. Our goal is \$3,000. Please mark your donation "Giving Tree". If you know of a family who could benefit from a little help this year, complete the form at the Welcome Center and place in the Offering Box or place in the Office Manager's Inbox.

2020
Christmas
Giving
Tree

Update: We have received \$2,400 so far. Can you help us reach our goal? Donations appreciated by Sunday.

R!OT Youth Activities:



R!OT Youth Christmas Party will be Saturday, December 12th at 4pm. Ugly Sweater Contest, Progressive Dinner, White Elephant Gift Exchange! See Dave/Dana for details.



R!OT Youth Lock-In
from 7pm Friday,
January 1st
to 7am Saturday,
January 2nd

Teens: invite your friends for a fun night of unlimited pizza, games, skating, and fun!
The cost is \$20 per person.
See Dave or Dana Metcalf for details.